14.	CGI	Milan	Italy
15.	CGI	New York	United States of America
16.	CGI	Odessa	Ukraine
17.	CGI	Osaka-Kobe	Japan
18.	CGI	Port Said	Egypt
19.	CGI	Reunion Islands	France
20.	CGI	San Francisco	United States of America
21.	CGI	Shanghai	China
22.	CGI	Shiraz	Iran
23.	CGI	St. Petersburg	Russia
24.	CGI	Sydney	Australia
25.	CGI	Toronto	Canada
26.	CGI	Vancouver	Canada
27.	CGI	Vladivostok	Russia
28.	CGI	Zahidan	Iran
29.	CGI	Zanzibar	Tanzania

Statement D

Assistant High Commissions

1.	AHCI	Chittagong	Bangladesh Sri Lanka
2.	AHCI	Kandy	Bangladesh
3.	AHCI	Rajshahi	*Commission*

1.	CI	Hong Kong	Hong Kong
2.	CI	Mombasa	Kenya

Special Missions

1.	Berlin (Off. of EI)	Germany
2.	Geneva (PMI)	Switzerland
3.	New York (PMI)	United States of America
4.	Paris (UNESCO) (PDI)	France
5.	Phuntsholing (LO)	Bhutan

Time Bound Programme to Issue Passports

7105. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any time bound programme has been chalked out to issue passport to the applicants; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) It is the endeavour of the Passport Offices to issue passports within a period of one month. Currently, 17 out of 23 passport offices are issuing passport within 6-8 weeks. Every effort is made including through upgradation of office facilities, review of systems and procedures, regular inspections and computerisation of passport offices to ensure that passports are issued in reasonable time frame.

Renewal of the Lease for the High Commissioner's residence in U.K.

7106. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem entitled "High Commissioner's residence; A sell-out to UK on residential House", appearing in the Indian Express dated the 6th May, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether Government have paid a sum of Rs. 75 crores to renew the lease of the High Commissioner's residence in UK;

(d) whether the lease of High Commissioner's residence of UK in New Delhi has not been renewed for a number of years;

(e) if so, the reasons for the India Government not insisting upon the renewal of lease thereof;

(0 what is the total amount being spent by Government on the rent of our Chanceries and residences abroad; and

(g) the reasons for not constructing our permanent assets there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE ' MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A premium of Pounds Sterling 14 million has been paid for renewal of the lease of Indian High Commissioner's residence in London for a period of 65 years beginning from April, 1990.

(d) and (e) The lease of the residence of the British High Commissioner in Delhi expired on 31st December, 1989. Negotiations have been underway with a view to renewing this lease.

(0 The amount spent by the Government on renting of our Chanceries and residences abroad was Rs. 68.89 crores in 1992-93 and Rs. 84.37 crores in 1993-94. The final figures of the financial year 1994-95 are yet to be compiled.

(g) Construction and acquisition of built up property for Chanceries and residences has been undertaken by the Government as a continuous process, depending upon the availability of budgetary resources.

Passports issued by Zona! Passport Offices

7107. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of passports issued during the last three years from various zonal passport offices of the country, rone-wise; and

(b) the average time taken in the issue of passports in the country, particularly for Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) The details are attached at Statement A. *(see* below)

(b) The average time taken in the issue of passports in the country in various passport offices is placed at Statement B *(see* below). It may be seen that 17 out of 23 passport offices have been issuing passports within sixth to eight weeks. The RPO Chandigarh (which looks after the 10 districts of Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Union Territory of Chandigarh) issued passports in 110 days whereas Passport Office, Jalandhar takes 95 days for issue of a passport.

Statement A

(i) The number of Fresh and Miscellaneous applications received and services granted in each Passport Office during the year 1992

S.No. '	Station	Fresh Applications		Miscellaneous Services	
		Received	Granted	Received	Granted
1.	Ahmedabad	133283	125321	60928	61149
2.	Bangalore	104871	123150	45363	43738
3.	Barielly	75848	71685	21900	23740
4.	Bhopal	27713	27426	10786	10796
5.	Bhubaneshwar	12808	9894	2411	2419
6.	Bombay	259374	280822	181697	182764
7.	Calcutta	60319	47119	31971	31972